

Application Serial No. 10/750,615
Amendment dated April 5, 2010
Reply to Office Action of January 4, 2010

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-31 (cancelled)

Claim 32 (currently amended): A system for resecting at least a portion of a lateral or medial facet at the proximal end of a tibia, the system comprising:

a rasp body having a bottom surface with a plurality of cutting edges and an opposing top surface with an opening extending from the bottom surface to the top surface, the rasp body being adapted for placement on a lateral or medial facet at a proximal end of a tibia such that the plurality of cutting edges can contact the facet;

a rasp guide mounted on the rasp body so that the rasp body can freely reciprocate relative to the rasp guide, the rasp guide being mounted on the rasp body in alignment with the opening in the rasp body so that at least a portion of the rasp guide is accessible at or through the bottom surface of the rasp body; and

an elongated retention rod having a connector adapted to removably couple with the rasp guide, and at least one of: i) a portion of the rasp guide and ii) a portion of the retention rod projecting entirely through the opening in the rasp body.

Claim 33 (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 32, wherein the rasp body comprises a plate having the bottom surface with the plurality of cutting edges formed thereon, the bottom surface of the plate being arched.

Claim 34 (cancelled)

Claim 35 (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 32, wherein the rasp guide comprises:

a slide plate slidably mounted on the rasp body;

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a pair of spaced apart forks projecting from the slide plate so as to extend beyond the bottom surface of the rasp body; and
a pin extending between the spaced apart forks.

Claim 36 (original): A system as recited in claim 32, wherein the retention rod comprises:
a tubular set rod; and
a hook rod disposed within the tubular set rod.

Claim 37 (cancelled)

Claim 38 (currently amended): A system as recited in claim [[37]] 42, wherein the first resecting template comprises a plate having a top surface and an opposing bottom surface, the plurality of elongated open channels extending between the top surface and the bottom surface so as to be completely bounded by the plate.

Claims 39-40 (cancelled)

Claim 41 (currently amended): A system as recited in claim [[37]] 42, further comprising a second resecting template at least partially bounding a second guide space extending through the second resecting template, the second resecting template being adapted for placement on the lateral or medial facet of the tibia such that the second guide space is aligned with at least a second portion of the lateral or medial facet to be resected.

Claim 42 (currently amended): A system as recited in claim 37, further comprising A system for resecting at least a portion of a lateral or medial facet at a proximal end of a tibia, the system comprising:

a first resecting template comprising a top surface and an opposing bottom surface, the first resecting template at least partially bounding a plurality of elongated open channels extending through the first resecting template from the top surface to the bottom surface, the first resecting template being adapted for placement on the lateral or medial facet of the tibia such that

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the plurality of elongated open channels are aligned with at least a first portion of the lateral or medial facet of the tibia to be resected when the first resecting template is placed on the facet;

a retention rod having a hook formed on [[an]] a first end of the retention rod, the hook being removably connected to the first resecting template from the bottom surface of the first resecting template, the retention rod projecting away from the bottom surface at an orientation away from the top surface; and

a rasp having a first end slidably positioned within one of the plurality of elongated open channels from the top surface of the first resecting template, the rasp projecting away from the top surface at an orientation away from the bottom surface.

Claim 43 (currently amended): A system as recited in claim 37, wherein A system for resecting at least a portion of a lateral or medial facet at a proximal end of a tibia, the system comprising:

a first resecting template comprising a top surface and an opposing bottom surface, the first resecting template at least partially bounding a plurality of elongated open channels extending through the first resecting template from the top surface to the bottom surface, the first resecting template being adapted for placement on the lateral or medial facet of the tibia such that the plurality of elongated open channels are aligned with at least a first portion of the lateral or medial facet of the tibia to be resected when the first resecting template is placed on the facet;

the a retention rod comprises comprising:

a tubular set rod having a first end removably connected to the resecting template from the bottom surface of the first resecting template, the tubular set rod projecting away from the bottom surface at an orientation away from the top surface; and

a hook rod disposed within the tubular set rod; and

a rasp having a first end slidably positioned within one of the plurality of elongated open channels from the top surface of the first resecting template, the rasp projecting away from the top surface at an orientation away from the bottom surface.

Claim 44 (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 32, further comprising an opening formed on the bottom surface of the rasp body, the rasp guide having at least a portion thereof

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secured within the opening so as to prevent unwanted separation between the rasp body and the rasp guide, the rasp guide being slidably disposed within the opening.

Claim 45 (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 44, wherein a portion of the rasp guide projects from the opening and past the bottom surface of the rasp body.

Claim 46 (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 32, wherein the connector of the retention rod is removably connected to the rasp guide.

Claim 47 (currently amended): A system for resecting at least a portion of a lateral or medial facet at the proximal end of a tibia, the system comprising:

a rasp body having an arched bottom surface with an opening formed in the rasp body and a plurality of cutting edges formed on the rasp body, the rasp body being adapted for placement on a lateral or medial facet at a proximal end of a tibia;

an elongated retention rod; and

means for removably engaging the retention rod with the rasp body such that the rasp body can be selectively reciprocated without movement of the retention rod, wherein one of: i) a portion of the retention rod and ii) a portion of the means for removably engaging the retention rod extends through the opening in the rasp body.

Claim 48 (currently amended): A system for resecting at least a portion of a lateral or medial facet at the proximal end of a tibia, the system comprising:

a rasp body having a bottom surface with a plurality of cutting edges formed thereon and an opening being formed in the bottom surface, the rasp body being adapted so that the plurality of cutting edges can be placed on a lateral or medial facet at a proximal end of a tibia;

a rasp guide having at least a portion thereof secured within the opening formed in the bottom surface of the rasp body, the rasp guide being freely slideable relative to the rasp body; and

an elongated retention rod removably coupled with the rasp guide, and at least one of: i) a portion of the rasp guide and ii) a portion of the retention rod projecting entirely through the opening in the rasp body.

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Claim 49 (previously presented): A system as recited in claim 48, wherein a portion of the rasp guide projects from the opening and past the bottom surface of the rasp body.

Claim 50 (previously presented): A system for resecting at least a portion of a lateral or medial facet at the proximal end of a tibia, the system comprising:

a rasp body having a bottom surface with a plurality of cutting edges, the rasp body being adapted for placement on a lateral or medial facet at a proximal end of a tibia;

an elongated retention rod; and

means for removably engaging the retention rod with the rasp body such that the rasp body can be selectively reciprocated without substantial movement of the retention rod, the means for removably engaging comprising:

a slide plate slidably mounted on the rasp body;

a pair of spaced apart forks projecting from the slide plate so as to extend beyond the bottom surface of the rasp body;

a pin extending between the spaced apart forks; and

a hook formed on the end of the retention rod, the hook being configured to hook over the pin.

Claim 51 (new): A system as recited in claim 43, wherein the first resecting template comprises a plate having a top surface and an opposing bottom surface, the plurality of elongated open channels extending between the top surface and the bottom surface so as to be completely bounded by the plate.

Claim 52 (new): A system as recited in claim 43, further comprising a second resecting template at least partially bounding a second guide space extending through the second resecting template, the second resecting template being adapted for placement on the lateral or medial facet of the tibia such that the second guide space is aligned with at least a second portion of the lateral or medial facet to be resected.